

# **Capulin Volcano**



## **Teacher's Guide**



## United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAPULIN VOLCANO NATIONAL MONUMENT

P.O. Box 40  
Capulin, New Mexico 88414

Dear Educator,

Thank you for ordering your copy of the Capulin Volcano Teacher's Guide. Park Rangers at Capulin have developed this program to enhance the educational visits to the Monument. It is our hope that, through the activities in this guide, you and your students will gain a better understanding and appreciation for the volcano and its resources.

We have developed this program for the fourth grade level; however, the activities in the guide can be adapted to younger and older grades. In the first section of the guide we have developed lessons that can be done before your trip to Capulin. The activities that coincide with the lesson will familiarize your students with volcanology, erosion, and the park system as a whole. These pre-site activities will enhance the students' experience at the Monument.

Before your trip to the park, you will need to make a reservation with the park. In addition, you will need to decide what activities you will want to do while in the Monument. Make sure you copy an adequate number of materials to take with you on your trip. When you arrive at the monument, meet with a ranger and show him/her your itinerary planner. This will help the ranger to know what you want and how they can be of assistance to you and your group. It is a good idea to schedule a Ranger Talk when you first arrive at Capulin. After your visit, we would appreciate if you and your students fill out the evaluation sheets and send it back to the park.

The post-site activities will help conclude and assess some of your previous lessons. The other lessons will help you to contextualize your study of the Monument and the National Park Service. We have included a variety of activities in this section, or you can conclude the unit however you see fit.

If you have any questions about this guide or about the park, please feel free to contact the rangers at the monument.

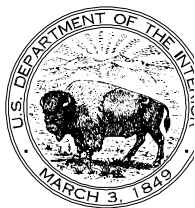
Thank You,

Margaret Johnston  
Superintendent

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\*Some lessons contain activities that will have to be done either before, during or after your visit to the park. If a lesson isn't followed by one of the following abbreviations, then it only has to be done according to the section it is listed under. Pr=Pre-site Activity, O=On-site Activity, P = Post-site Activity



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CAPULIN VOLCANO NATIONAL MONUMENT

P.O. Box 40  
Capulin, New Mexico 88414

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
F5419 (CAVO)

Dear Entrance Fee Waiver Applicant:

Enclosed is an application for entrance fee waiver at Capulin Volcano National Monument. In order to provide consistent, equitable consideration of your fee waiver request, it is necessary for you to return the completed application no later than 30 days in advance of your visit to the Monument. "Walk-in" fee waiver requests are not approved at Capulin Volcano National Monument.

Please note that your group will be required to stay on hard-surfaced trails while within the Monument boundaries. Also, collecting rocks, minerals, plants or other park resources is prohibited. These regulations are in place to prevent personal injury to our visitors and to ensure the protection of the easily-impacted cinder slopes of the volcano. Your cooperation is necessary and appreciated.

You will be contacted as soon as possible regarding the disposition of your application for fee waiver.

Thank you for your interest in Capulin Volcano National Monument. If we can be of further assistance please call the Monument at 505-278-2201.

Sincerely,

Margaret A. Johnston  
Superintendent

Enclosure

**National Park Service**  
**Capulin Volcano National Monument**  
**Application for Waiver of Entrance Fee**

Authority for waiver of federal recreation fees is provided for in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 36, Part 71, Section 71.13(d); exceptions, exclusions, and exemptions: "No Federal recreation fee shall be charged for ...organized tours or outings conducted for educational or scientific purposes related to the resources of the area visited by bona fide institutions established for these purposes. Applicants for waiver of fees on this basis will be required to provide documentation of their official recognition as educational or scientific institutions by Federal, State, or local government bodies and will also be required to provide a statement as to the purposes of the visit proposed. The use of any recreation facilities for which a fee waiver is requested must relate directly to scientific or educational purposes of the visit and may not be primarily for recreational purposes. No Federal recreation fee shall be charged any hospital inmate actively involved in medical treatment or therapy in the area visited."

1. Name/Address of Institution requesting entrance fee waiver (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ "Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name/Title of responsible official: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of adult sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Date of visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of day: \_\_\_\_\_

6. State the educational purpose of your visit; please list curriculum course number(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Date of this application: \_\_\_\_\_

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(This space for official National Park Service use only)

FEE WAIVER: \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Capulin Volcano

National Monument  
National Park Service

## Educational Visit Reservation Form

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students Attending Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adult's Attending Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Second Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Orientation Talk: \_\_\_\_\_

Previsit Material Request: ☐ Video ☐ Other Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Lesson Plans That Will Be Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Office Use Only

Reservation Taken By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent Previsit Materials On: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by: \_\_\_\_\_

CAVO-I-1a 5/01

# Capulin Volcano

National Monument  
National Park Service

## Important Information

### Park Hours:

Summer Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Winter Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(Winter hours begin in after Labor Day and continue through to the middle of May)

### Directions To The Park:

Capulin Volcano National Monument is in the northeastern corner of New Mexico. The park's entrance is on New Mexico Highway 325, three miles north of the town of Capulin.

Capulin is 58 miles west of Clayton on US 64 and 87, and 30 miles east of Raton and I-25.



### Bus Parking:

Capulin Volcano has bus parking available at the visitor's center and on the rim parking lot. If you plan to arrive here by bus, please let us know so that we can determine if you will need an escort to the rim.

### Weather Conditions:

During the summer: Most days are hot with afternoon showers.

During the winter: Most days are cold. There is always a chance of snow, especially in the morning.

\*It may be a good idea to call the morning of your visit to determine the weather conditions so that your students can dress accordingly.

### Picnic Areas:

The picnic area is located on the western base of the volcano, about .2 miles up the volcano road. The area has picnic tables, water, and modern bathrooms. Trash cans and recycle bins can be found throughout the area.

### Restroom Facilities:

Facilities can be found at the visitor's center, in the picnic area, and at the rim parking lot.

### Visitor Center:

The visitor center is the first stop that you will want to make when you arrive in the park. You will need to check in with the park staff and they will provide you with needed information about your visit. The museum and the park video are good things to view before you go up the volcano. The visitor center also has a book store, where your students can buy souvenirs. Talks to school groups are usually given at the visitor center, but if you would like to make other arrangements, check with the park.

## Itinerary Planner

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_

Lesson Plans To Be Taught At Monument:

\_\_\_\_\_

Time	Activities	Location	Materials Needed
<b>Arrive:</b> _____			
<b>Lunch:</b> _____			
<b>Departure:</b> _____			



## **You can help too...**

- ❖ **Capulin Volcano is beginning to disappear... rock by rock, cinder by cinder, Capulin Volcano is being carried away.**
- ❖ **Illegal rock collecting diminishes Capulin Volcano and the unique natural features that the National Monument was established to protect.**
- ❖ **By LEAVING NO TRACE of your visit, you will help preserve Capulin Volcano for future generations. Thank you for your help.**

It is a violation of federal law to destroy, damage, or remove anything from the park. This includes rocks, plants, animals, and other natural materials. If you see anyone removing or destroying ANY park feature, please contact a Park Ranger as soon as possible.

**Your students can help us to protect the park and yourself by following the guidelines below:**

- Always wear a seatbelt
- Stay on established trails to prevent erosion and to avoid loose slopes.
- Leave only FOOTPRINTS, take only MEMORIES.
- Be alert for approaching thunderstorms. The crater is dangerous during electrical storms.
- Keep wildlife wild! Do not approach, feed, or pet any wild animal. Stay on trails to avoid rattlesnakes.
- Put trash in designated trash cans and recycle bins.

## **Field Trip Checklist**

### **WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BRING**

- Bag lunch with drink (if you plan to picnic here)
- Plastic Water Bottle
- Hiking boots or sneakers
- Comfortable clothing
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellant
- Jacket (weather permitting)

-You may want to call the morning of your trip to find out the day's weather, especially if you have to travel far.

# Capulin Volcano

National Monument  
National Park Service

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## Teacher Field Trip Evaluation

Please photocopy this form and fill it out after your field trip to the park. Your evaluation of the material and park visit will help us to improve the teacher's guide. Please send a completed copy to Capulin Volcano at your convenience.

School's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Stay: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, how do you think the visit went?

If you could change anything about your visit, what would it be?

How could we improve your visit?

How did your visit and the lessons fit into your curriculum?

Were you able to meet your goals of the visit?

What changes, if any, would you make to the lesson plans?

# Capulin Volcano

National Monument  
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## Student Field Trip Evaluation

It is very important for the students to evaluate and reflect on their learning experiences. At Capulin, we feel that it helps us to have feedback from the students, as well as the teachers. Please photocopy this form for your students and then send them back to us along with the completed Teacher Field Trip Evaluation Form. Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What activities did you participate in?

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---

What I learned at Capulin:

---

---

I had the most fun when:

---

---

I wish I had been able to:

---

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Additional Comments:

# Self-Evaluation Log

**Directions:** At the end of each lesson, rate yourself on how you think you did on the lesson. Use the numbers below to help you.



- 1: Hawaiian Eruption (I could have done better)
- 2: Capulin Volcano Eruption (I did ok)
- 3: Mt. St. Helen's Eruption (I did great!)

Date	Rate	Activity	My comments

## Definition of Key Terms

**Igneous:** formed from cooling and solidification of magma

**Metamorphic:** formed by recrystallization of a pre-existing rock (without melting) at high temperatures and pressure

**Sedimentary:** formed by chemical precipitation of or by cementation of sediment

**Intrusive or plutonic:** formed by solidification of magma below the Earth's surface

**Extrusive or volcanic:** formed by the solidification of lava (magma which has been erupted on the Earth's surface)

**Volcano:** (1) The vent from which magma, gases, and fragmental material are erupted from the Earth's interior. (2) The edifice formed around a volcanic vent.

**Volcanic Eruption:** An expulsion of gases, fragmental material, and/or molten lava from beneath the ground through a vent into the atmosphere.

**Vent:** The opening at the Earth's surface through which volcanic material are extruded. Also, the channel or conduit through which volcanic material pass on its way to the surface.

**Crater:** A bowl-shaped depression in the summit of a volcano which lies directly above the vent from which volcanic material is ejected. Craters are usually formed by the explosivity of the volcanic eruptions.

**Caldera:** A very large crater with a diameter greater than 1 km. Calderas usually result from ground surface collapse into a magma chamber momentarily emptied from an extrusion of a great amount of volcanic material.

**Magma:** Molten rock material which may include suspended solids (such as crystals or rock fragments) plus dissolved gases. Magma may have a range of compositions, is characterized by high temperatures, and has the properties of a liquid. Magma may be erupted as a **lava** or as **pyroclasts**.

**Lava:** Magma that has reached the Earth's surface.

**Bomb:** A pyroclast with a diameter greater than 64 mm (2.5 inches) that has a rounded or ellipsoidal shape that indicated that it was wholly or partially molten condition during eruption or flight. The shapes of bombs are determined largely by the viscosity of flight, and rates of cooling, and deformation upon impact.

**Spindle Bomb:** Almond-shaped bombs that result from the tearing apart of ribbons of lava either during flight or upon impact.

**Ribbon Bomb:** Elongated ropy-shaped bombs.

**Cowdung Bomb:** Very fluid bombs which flatten or splash upon landing.

**Cored Bombs:** Bombs with a nucleus of solid material. The solid core may be fragments of previously solidified magma from the volcano, or xenoliths from either the crust or the mantle.

**Breadcrust Bomb:** Bombs with a fractured surface from a quickly quenched crust that was a fractured by continued expansion of vesicles in the molten core. Most bread crusting form after landing. Breadcrust bombs are usually andesitic in composition.

**Cinder:** A small nut-size to fist-size, or larger, piece of red or black highly vesicular lava that cooled in air during flight after eruption from a vent.

**Tectonics:** Is the study of the large structures of the Earth's crust and the processes that formed them.

**Plate Tectonics:** Is a special branch of tectonics that studies the processes by which the lithosphere moves above the convecting asthenosphere. The asthenosphere convects because of a large temperature difference between the Earth's hot interior and its cool surface. This difference sets up convection currents as the hot mantle rises, cools near the surface, then sinks. The brittle lithosphere is broken into a mosaic of plates, which ride on the convecting asthenosphere.

**Eruption Types:**

**Gas:** Eruptions of gas with no accompanying solid materials.

**Hawaiian:** Non-explosive eruptions of gusher-like lava fountains ("fire fountains") that generate red-hot lava rivers of very fluid basaltic lavas.

**Strombolian:** Moderately explosive eruptions of basaltic magma with moderate gas content. (Capulin Volcano)

**Vulcanian:** Moderately explosive, intermittent eruptions that produce moderate ash columns. More explosive than Strombolian.

**Peleian:** Explosive collapse of a silicic lava dome which produces pyroclastic.

**Plinian:** Extremely explosive eruptions that produce ash columns that extend many tens of miles into the atmosphere, and produce widespread deposits of fallout ash, and may produce pyroclastic flows.

**Hydrovolcanic:** Violently explosive eruptions driven by the steam explosions produced by the interaction of surface water or shallow groundwater with hot magma.

**Types of Volcanoes:**

**Cinder Cone:** Capulin Volcano. Strombolian type eruption.

**Composite Volcano:** Mt. St. Helens. Plinian, Pelean, Vulcanian type eruption.

**Shield Volcano:** Hawaii Volcanoes. Hawaiian type eruption.

\*Definitions taken from "Volcanology for Interpreters" Mathis, A. 1999

## Capulin Volcano Timeline

**9 Ma - Present (?)**

**Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field (RCVF) active.**

- The Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field is the easternmost volcanic field in North America. The field extends from Trinidad, CO to Clayton, NM, and covers about 8,000 square miles.
- The RCVF had three phases of activity.
  - The Raton phase began 9 million years ago (Ma) and ended 3.5 Ma.
  - The Clayton phase was active 3.0 - 2.25 Ma.
  - The Capulin phase was active 1.7 - .04 Ma, and is still potentially active. No activity is expected within a human timeframe.

**56,000 - 62,000 (years ago)**

**Capulin Volcano erupted.**

- The eruption of Capulin occurred in the last phase of the Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field activity. The age for this eruption was determined through the use of Argon/Argon and Cosmogenic Exposure Age Determinations in 1995 & 1996. The recent age determinations corrected the previously estimated age of 10,000 years.
- The actual duration of the eruption is unknown, but it is thought that it lasted anywhere between five and fifteen years.

**30 - 40,000 (years ago)**

**Most recent eruption in the Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field (RCVF) occurred.**

- It is uncertain which volcano was the last recent to erupt, but it may have been Baby Capulin, Twin Mountain, or Purvine Mesa.

**10,000+ (years ago)**

**Hunters killed bison at what is now known as the Folsom Archeological Site.**

- In 1926-1928, the site near Folsom, NM was excavated. Spear points were found in direct association with the bones of an extinct species of bison. From this evidence, scientists were able to determine that humans inhabited North America long before anyone, at the time, thought.

**Mid 1500's**

**Europeans arrived in what was Jicarilla Apache Territory.**

- The Jicarilla were a branch of the Apaches that lived in what is now northern New Mexico. Like the Plains Indians, they became buffalo hunters, but they also practiced farming, like the Pueblo Indians. Jicarilla (hee-kah-ree'-yah) is a Spanish term meaning small basket.
- Beginning in 1528, Cabeza de Vaca (meaning "head of cow") explored the southwest region, including New Mexico, of the United States. Through his writings people in Spain were able to understand what it was like in the Southwest. His writings are still read today.
- Soon after De Vaca's explorations, Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza gathered close to 400 men to explore New Mexico. These two explorations led to further expeditions by Europeans.
- In 1540 to 1542, Vasquez de Coronado, also a Spanish explorer, came through Northeast New Mexico.

**1610**

**Spaniards founded Santa Fe - Capital of New Mexico.**

- In 1608, Don Pedro de Peralta became governor of N.M. By 1609, he moved the state capital from San Gabriel to an abandoned Indian pueblo. Peralta was told by the viceroy of New Spain in Mexico City to call the new city, *La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San Francisco* (The Royal City of the Holy Faith of St. Francis).
- The City of Santa Fe was under the control of the Spanish government from 1610 to 1821, the Mexican government from 1821 to 1846 and the United States Government since 1848.

**1821**

**William Becknell pioneered the Santa Fe Trail.**

- In 1821, William Becknell traveled from Franklin, Missouri to Santa Fe in an attempt to trade "for Horses and Mules and catching Wild Animals of every description." It was then widely believed that traders would not be welcome in Santa Fe. This was not the case when Becknell arrived in New Mexico. Mexican soldiers escorted him, from Raton Pass to Santa Fe, and residents of Santa Fe welcomed him.
- Becknell found trading in Santa Fe to be profitable and in 1822 used the Cimarron Route to bring goods from Missouri to New Mexico for a second time. Later, the Mountain Route became more popular because more water was available and there was less threat of Indian conflict.
- Some say that Becknell is the "Father of the Santa Fe Trail"

**1846 - 1848**

**Mexican War fought.**

- The Mexican War was fought over the control of the territories of New Mexico and California.
- The U.S. Government wanted to acquire control of New Mexico and California for their abundance of natural resources.

**February 2, 1848**

**Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo Signed.**

- This treaty ended the Mexican War. It also allowed for the acquisition of New Mexico and California by the United States and recognized the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of Texas.
- Hidalgo: "hijo de algo" - "son of something"

**1851**

**Fort Union established.**

- The Fort was established in August 1851 to protect travelers on the Santa Fe Trail and local residents from Indian attacks. It was also used as a supply depot for the Military in the Southwest.
- Military Department No. 9 ran the Fort.
- The Fort was abandoned in the 1891 and became a national monument in 1954.

**1862**

**Homestead Act signed.**

- The Homestead Act was a Basic Land Law that allowed any citizen or intended citizen to claim 160 acres (1/4sq mi.) of surveyed government land.
- A stipulation of this act was that claimants must improve the land by building a home or growing crops. If the claimant was still on the land after 5 years, the property belonged to the citizen.

**1872**

**Yellowstone National Park established.**

- Yellowstone National Park, located in Wyoming, was the first National Park to be established.

**1872 -1916**

**14 National Parks were created.**

- All of the parks were in the West and were public land.
- Sequoia NP, California - 1890, Yosemite NP, California - 1890, Mount Rainier NP, Washington - 1899 Crater Lake NP, Oregon - 1902, Wind Cave NP, South Dakota - 1903, Rocky Mountain NP, Colorado - 1915

**1873 -1875**

**Granada - Fort Union Road in use as a Military Freight Route.**

- A railroad brought supplies to Granada, Colorado and wagons then hauled the supplies to Ft. Union.
- The route was probably used first in the early 1800's by explorers, but the wagon road probably wasn't built until 1867/68. It wasn't until 1873 that the road was frequently used.

<b>1880</b>	<p><b>Santa Fe Trail ended because of the railroad.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prior to the end of the actual trail, the Cimarron Route was abandoned because of Indian conflict.</li> <li>-The Santa Fe Railroad went through the Raton Pass in 1878. On Feb. 9, 1880, the 1<sup>st</sup> steam engine entered Santa Fe (Kansas Pacific Railroad), thus ending major use of the trail.</li> </ul>
<b>1887</b>	<p><b>Des Moines, New Mexico established.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Des Moines was created when the Colorado &amp; Southern RR came through the county.</li> <li>-The town got its name from railroad signs that had been put up at the future townsite, indicating the line to Des Moines, IA.</li> <li>-There was supposed to be a junction of four lines, but only two were built.</li> </ul>
<b>1888</b>	<p><b>Folsom, New Mexico established.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Between the years of 1883 and 1888, the town was known as Capulien. In 1887 &amp; 1888, a RR construction camp was set up in the location. The town was renamed Ragtown. When the first trains came through, the town was renamed Folsom, after Frances Folsom (who married Pres. Grover Cleveland, 1886, at the age of 22).</li> <li>-Folsom thrived until 1908, when a flood from the Dry Cimarron River destroyed the town.</li> </ul>
<b>January 16, 1891</b>	<p><b>Capulin Mountain withdrawn from public domain.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-In December 1890, Land Inspector W. D. Harlan, of Folsom, suggested to his supervisors that Capulin Mountain and surrounding area be set aside from homesteading because the "mountain is a great natural curiosity." Upon receipt of the letter the Secretary of the Interior ordered the withdrawal of land in and around the volcano from homesteading.</li> </ul>
<b>1906</b>	<p><b>Antiquities Act becomes law.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Signed by President Theodore Roosevelt.</li> <li>-This act gave Presidents the authority to claim land or specific areas as national monuments, thereby reserving land that is considered to be historic or worth preserving. The Antiquities Act has been used more than eighty times to establish National Monuments, many of which later became National Parks through Acts of Congress.</li> </ul>
<b>1906 -1916</b>	<p><b>21 National Monuments were created using the Antiquities Act.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The first National Monument was Devil's Tower National Monument.</li> </ul>
<b>1908</b>	<p><b>Folsom Flood occurred on the Dry Cimarron River.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-On August 27, sometime around midnight, a flood destroyed the town and any future plans to develop the area. The flood caused the loss of 17 lives.</li> <li>-A few days after the flood, George McJunkin discovered large bones in the Wild Horse Arroyo, collected them, and put them on his mantle. Eventually, McJunkin interested others in the unusual bones that he had found.</li> <li>-In 1922, Carl Schwachheim, a blacksmith from Raton, visited the site and began excavation.</li> </ul>
<b>January 6, 1912</b>	<p><b>New Mexico becomes a state.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Sixty-four years after becoming a territory, New Mexico was admitted into the Union.</li> </ul>



**August 9, 1916**

**Capulin Mountain National Monument established.**

- By President Proclamation, President Woodrow Wilson, created the Mountain as a National Monument using the Antiquities Act. The area included 775 acres.
- Capulin Mountain became a National Monument 16 days before the NPS was established.
- Lassen Volcanic National Park was established on the same day.

**August 25, 1916**

**Organic Act became law and established the National Park Service.**

- President Woodrow Wilson signed the legislation.
- In the legislation, the NPS was instructed "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

**1925**

**Volcano Road built.**

- Homer Farr, the second custodian in the park, used a mule-drawn plow to grade a road to the rim of the volcano.
- Today, Capulin is one of three cinder cones in the U.S. with a paved road to the rim.

**1926 -1928**

**Folsom Site excavated.**

- Scientists from the Denver Museum of Natural History began excavating the site in 1926 to acquire a bison skeleton for exhibition. When projectile points were found with the bones, researchers realized the importance of the site and it established the antiquity of humans in North America. In 1928, the site was excavated by the American Museum of Natural History.
- 23+ ancient Bison skeletons and 19 projectile points, which were named the Folsom point, were found.

**1934 - 1987**

**Retaining Walls built along Volcano Road.**

- In 1934, CWA and FERA, under the direction of Custodian Homer Farr, built a two-foot high wall and leveled the parking area on the rim of the volcano. The rim and vent trails were also constructed during this time.
- During the 1930's & 40's, a few short, low sections of retaining wall were built. These sections were later removed and the existing wall was put in their place.
- 300 ft. of retaining wall was built in 1953 & 1954.
- After the initial 300 ft. of wall was built, additions occurred intermittently throughout the following years, with some work completed by the YCC. The most recent construction was in 1987.

**1956 - 1966**

**Mission 66 funded the construction of Capulin Volcano's visitor center and residential houses.**

- Director Conrad L. Wirth, of the National Park Service, created this 10-year program to upgrade facilities, staffing, and resource management throughout the system by the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1966.
- President Eisenhower endorsed it and Congress funded the more than a billion dollars, over 10 years, to the project.

**1987**

**Volcano Road paved.**

**December 31, 1987**

**Capulin Mountain becomes Capulin Volcano National Monument**

- The name was changed through Public Law in order to more accurately describe the true nature of the monument. It also established El Malpais National Monument.